

- ♦ **St Anne's Church, Patronal Festival:** Today, St Anne's celebrates its patronal festival with St Nicolas Church choir singing Choral Evensong at 6.00p.m. The choir will sing much of the music they sang at Winchester Cathedral. This is always a lovely occasion enhanced greatly by arriving to have a cream tea first! Do come and celebrate with St Anne's.
- ♦ **Open Wednesdays:** the church will be open as usual next Wednesday from 12.00 to about 4.00p.m. with a service at 12.30 followed by a ploughman's lunch.
- ♦ **Oasis at St Anne's:** the next session will be conducted by our Vicar, Revd Jane Cresswell and is called "**Body Prayer**". Sometimes prayer can become routine, when words no longer seem to work. *Body Prayer* can help restore a sense of the divine presence using our bodies to express and sustain an encounter with God. For those who wish, there will be time to walk and pray in Burnham Beeches. This session is suitable for old and young, those who have been Christians for many years and those who simply wish to discover more.

Thursday, 17th August, 10.00 to 12.30. Please book by contacting Jo Saunders Tel: 01628 663302 or email josau@btinternet.com

- ♦ **Please sponsor our intrepid cyclists!** - Phil and Christine (middle daughter) Taylor are cycling the Prudential 46 on Sunday 30th July. The course is based on half the London 2012 Olympic Road Race course; there is a map in the church porch. Phil and Christine hope to raise some money to be split between British Heart Foundation and our required South Roof work. Please support them if you can. Pam Taylor is happy to receive the money!

Next Sunday: Trinity 7 (30th July)

10.45: Joint St Anne's and St Nicolas Holy Communion at St Nicolas Church led by Rev'd Chris Collinge.

Further information on **St Nicolas Church Website:** <http://st-nicolas-taplow.org>
If you need to **contact the Vicar**, you can ring her on 01628 661182 or email her: janecresswell523@gmail.com

Notices in the Pew Leaflet: If you have a notice or news for the *Pew Leaflet*, please email it to Jim Oliver (oliverjim1@sky.com) by the end of the Wednesday preceding the Sunday date you want it in. This leaflet is on the website from the Friday preceding each Sunday.

St Anne's Church, Littleworth Common

St Nicolas' Church, Taplow

6th Sunday after Trinity

23rd July, 2017

Faithful to God

Caring for each other

Serving the Community

Welcome to this morning's Service of Matins. At St Nicolas, children are invited to join Sunday School in the Choir Vestry after the first hymn.

Collect (or Prayer for Today)

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love toward you that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading: Genesis 28: 10-19 *Jacob's Dream at Bethel*

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How

awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.” So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel.

Second Reading: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

The Parable of Weeds among the Wheat

He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

Anthem: *Be thou my vision* Bob Chilcott

This Week's News and Notices

- ◆ **The Parochial Church Council:** The joint PCC met last Tuesday and, amongst other things discussed:
 - ◇ The Summer Fete: Nicki Jeffries will shortly attend a review meeting with the school. Our meeting identified points we will raise for consideration regarding future fetes. It was enthusiastically agreed the event was a great success from several points of view.
 - ◇ Autumn Stewardship Campaign: the meeting discussed what we will do, when and how to create an engaging campaign related to how we each contribute to our Church life.
 - ◇ Improving Communications: We agreed on six areas for development related to planning, news, knowing who is responsible for what, noticeboards, e mailing lists, photocopying and office facilities.
 - ◇ PCC Sub-Committees: we established a model for sub-committees, building on our experience with the Social and Finance groups. Priorities for new groups are a Worship and Ministry group (more on this soon) and a Buildings Group. Also at some point in the future, we hope to establish a Mission and Outreach group.
 - ◇ Parish Share: the meeting recognised its responsibility to meet the parish share and agreed to offer a 3% increase next year (in line with diocesan expectations).

A fuller report on this meeting is available in the ‘News’ section of our website. Any member of the PCC will be able to answer your queries and will be happy to receive your views.

- ◆ **A Summer's Evening Celebration with Burnham Concert Band:** Last Friday, we held the annual summer supper in our Church. Many thanks to all members of our Social Committee for providing a sumptuous meal in convivial company with musical accompaniment! This was a lovely opportunity to share some time together.